

### REMARKS

The Office Action mailed February 27, 2007 has been received and its contents carefully considered. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The rejections of claims 3-24 under §112, first paragraph, and claims 1-24 under §112, second paragraph, are noted. In this regard, the present amendment cancels pending claims 1-24 and presents new claims for consideration. It is respectfully requested therefore that these rejections have been rendered moot. The language objected to in these rejections is believed not to be present in the newly presented claims, and thus this rejection is also believed to be moot.

Turning next to the art rejections of claims 1 and 2 as unpatentable over Klepeis in view of Neuteboom, and claims 1-24 as being unpatentable over Barnard, in view of Neuteboom, these rejections have been noted. Without necessarily conceding the propriety of these rejections, claims 1-24 which were rejected have now been canceled. Accordingly, it is believed these rejections themselves have been rendered moot and do not require further comment.

Full consideration of the newly presented claims is respectfully requested. Claim 26 relates to the feature of a drive disc permanently affixed to a shaft with the drive disc forming a radially extending flange having a plurality of equally spaced holes, and to a blade pair member mounted to the drive disc also having a plurality of similarly spaced holes, along with a plurality of bolts which each extend through a respective hole in the blade pair and the drive disc to mount the blade pair to the drive disc. Claim 35 recites attachment means for attaching the drive disc and the blade pair with one of the top mounting portion surface and the bottom mounting surface <sup>against</sup> ~~flash~~ against one of the top flange surfaces and the bottom flange surface.

These features are believed to be neither taught nor suggested by the references of record, including those recently used in the rejection. For example, Klepeis appears to trap its blade between a pair of washers 6. The blade of Barnard appears to have a central hole and a single

bolt or nut. Neuteboom discloses bolts extending through a blade and a hub. However, this hub is not a disc formed as a flange permanently affixed to the shaft, as presently claimed, nor a flange radially extending from the shaft. To the contrary, the item c is described as a hollow metal hub with a conical inner end, grooves and other attaching features. The item e is splined, and does not appear either to have any permanent connection to the hub.

Further, one of the benefits of the presently claimed arrangement is that it permits embodiments, such as those in some dependent claims that can utilize, if desired, multiple blade pairs. This can be accomplished without any modification to the blade pair or to the drive disc being required. Neuteboom is not understood to teach or suggest any use of plural circumferentially spaced bolts through a fixed drive disc and multiple blade pairs which is possible with the embodiment of the independent claim, and as is claimed in some dependent claims.

Examination of all dependent claims is respectfully requested. For example, some claims recite that the drive disc is at an end of the shaft, and some recite the drive disc is at an intermediate portion of the shaft.

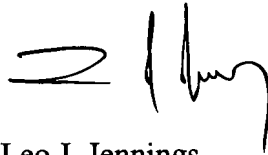
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application are believed to be in order, and such action is earnestly solicited.

If, for any reason, the Examiner disagrees, please call the undersigned attorney at 202-861-1696 in an effort to resolve any matter still outstanding before issuing another action. The undersigned Attorney is confident that any issue which might remain can readily be worked out by telephone.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicant petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fee deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-2036 with reference to our Docket No. 87335.3203.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER & HOSTETLER LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Jennings', is written over the printed name.

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